Maggie

5/29/67

Dear Hal,

I have what the Archives says is the Similas file. Got some new items today but haven't read. Glance shows it is incomplete and I've written for the identifiable missing pieces.

On the more important occasions I lay a basis for what I intend to do as soon as my immediately-planned writing is done. Enclosed letter to NYSun Times Book Review self-explanatory.

I've about finished my fourth book. Last week I suddenly realized, while drafting the photographic part of NW III, that it is book length. So it will be. If my agent doesn't come up with a publisher by the time I've got it roughed out completely, I will do. No news from him on CIA WHITEWASH (soon I expect one of the critic critics to be talking about "Son Of Whitewash").

Tentatively, I've titled the fourth PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH: SUPPRESSION OF KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PICTURES. If my artist comes up with a good cover, I may be able to shorten. I've more than 150 pages of documents in the appendix and a couple of pertinent pictures. Text right noew about 25,000 words. Hope it will be not much over 30,000 when I'm done. I am merely expanding what I had already written. So far, two full books from III and it is still much too big. I hope I do not suddenly find another, but I suspect it is possible, for I've got more than 15,000 words already written on that!

I keep telling myself that after I reach a certain point, always specific, I'll ease off, But changing things prevent. And in the immediate future I have a few more interruptions than usual. One of these that promise to be most stimulating is 6/10. I'm the main speaker at what I think is called the Ohio News Directors Association, although I am not sure and its initials indicate otherwise. To indicate the status we have achieved outside the strongholds of the intellectual finks, in the speaker hierarchy, the Attorney General of Ohio is subordinate. They asked me what I'd like to talk about when I was invited. I said I'd like to talk about them, beginning by taking them apart. I then, ad lib, said what I'd like to say. They loved it, but asked that I have a written text for them to give out in advance. So, I wrote a speech that will run 40 minutes (there will be no applause to interrupt it). Today I heard from the president. He thinks it is fine and agrees it is past time forma dialogue on this subject. He thinks I'll have one after that speech. He is going to distribute copies among the officers in advance. It will be a hot time! I wind it up with a challenge to take me on right then and there, on the basis of my representation of the performance of the press in the assassination, and reach that with a tribute to radio talk programs, even the sickening ones. I did not change the nice things I said about Joe Dolan. He has not answered my letter.

One of my bookstore customers sent me this Dell notice to stores. It seems that despite their best efforts, WHITEWASH is the only book they have that is nonfiction and in their best-seller list.

Harve Morgan is wonderful. His wife, Judy, phoned me about midnight Sat to ask if I'd do the show and I happily agreed. I asked her to phone me five minutes early so I could get a smoke, a drink and awaken. They calle me during the commercial and I didn't have time to go back for my robe. I di the entire broadcast naked, fortunately by phone. Any reaction?

Best,